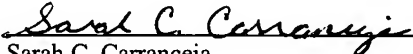




PATENT
RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 1742

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 7, 2007.


Sarah C. Carranceja

Appl No. : 10/731,710 Confirmation No. 5454
Applicant : Xian Yao, et al.
Filed : December 9, 2003
Title : METHOD FOR FORMING ULTRA HARD SINTERED COMPACTS
USING METALLIC PERIPHERAL STRUCTURES IN THE SINTERING
CELL

TC/A.U. : 1742
Examiner : Weiping Zhu

Docket No. : 50547/M277

Customer No. : 23363

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068
August 7, 2007

Commissioner:

In response to the Office action mailed on June 7, 2007, please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.